## State of South Caroling Governor's Proclamation

- **WHEREAS,** the cornerstone of a democracy is an educated, informed, and participatory electorate; and
- WHEREAS, because voting is an exercise of citizens' rights and responsibilities that makes our country work, all eligible citizens of the Palmetto State should be encouraged to register to vote and every opportunity should be taken to enable them to do so; and
- **WHEREAS,** over 2 million South Carolinians are currently eligible to vote, yet more than 600,000 of these individuals have not registered, and many who are registered do not regularly participate in elections; and
- **WHEREAS,** all South Carolina counties will, for the first time, use the uniform voting system in the June 13, 2006, primary and November 7, 2006, general elections; and
- **WHEREAS,** ensuring that all registered voters are familiar with and comfortable in using new voting systems is essential to advancing greater participation in elections; and
- **WHEREAS,** the South Carolina State Election Commission is in its third year of leading a voter education effort under the federal Help America Vote Act.
- NOW, THEREFORE, I, Mark Sanford, Governor of the Great State of South Carolina, do hereby proclaim May 2006 as

## VOTER EDUCATION MONTH

throughout the state and encourage all eligible South Carolinians to register to vote and all registered voters to take part in voter education efforts to promote greater participation in federal, state, and local elections.

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MARK SANFORD
GOVERNOR
STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA